

REPORT

ON

NATIVE PAPERS

FOR THE

Week ending the 10th June 1893.

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LIST OF NEWSPAPERS.

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
BENGALI.				
<i>Fortnightly.</i>				
1	"Bankura Darpan" ...	Bankura ...	360	
2	"Grāmvasī" ...	Ramkristopur, Howrah ...	1,000	
3	"Kaliyuga" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
4	"Kasipur Nivāsi" ...	Kasipur, Barisāl ...	300	
5	"Navamihir" ...	Ghatail, Mymensingh ...	500	
6	"Sadar-o-Mufasssal" ...	Tahirpur, Rajshahi ...	650	
7	"Ulubaria Darpan" ...	Ulubaria ...	755	
<i>Tri-monthly.</i>				
8	"Hitakari" ...	Tangail Mymensingh ...	800	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
9	"Bangavāsi" ...	Calcutta ...	20,000	3rd June 1893.
10	"Banganivāsi-o-Prakriti" ...	Ditto ...	8,000	2nd ditto.
11	"Burdwān Sanjivani" ...	Burdwan ...	320	30th May 1893.
12	"Chāruvartā" ...	Sherpur, Mymensingh ...	300	29th ditto.
13	"Dacca Prakāsh" ...	Dacca ...	5,000	4th June 1893.
14	"Education Gazette" ...	Hooghly ...	1,050	2nd ditto.
15	"Hindu Ranjikā" ...	Boalia, Rajshahi ...	212	
16	"Hitavādī" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	1st ditto.
17	"Murshidābād Pratinidhi" ...	Berhampore ...	.....
18	"Pratikār" ...	Ditto ...	611	2nd ditto.
19	"Rangpur Dikprakāsh" ...	Kakinia, Rangpur ...	170	
20	"Sahachar" ...	Calcutta ...	800-1,000	31st May 1893.
21	"Samaj-o-Sāhitya" ...	Garibpore, Nadia ...	1,000	4th June 1893.
22	"Samaya" ...	Calcutta ...	3,000	2nd ditto.
23	"Sanjivani" ...	Ditto ...	4,000	3rd ditto.
24	"Sansodhini" ...	Chittagong ...	.....
25	"Sāraswat Patra" ...	Dacca ...	(300-400)	3rd ditto.
26	"Som Prakāsh" ...	Calcutta ...	800	5th ditto.
27	"Srimanta Sadagar" ...	Ditto ...	.....
28	"Sudhakar" ...	Ditto ...	3,600	2nd ditto.
<i>Daily.</i>				
29	"Banga Vidya Prakāshikā" ...	Calcutta ...	500	2nd, 3rd and 5th to 8th June 1893.
30	"Bengal Exchange Gazette" ...	Ditto ...	.....	29th to 31st May and 5th June 1893.
31	"Dainik-o-Samāchār Chandrikā" ...	Ditto ...	1,500	4th to 7th June 1893.
32				
33	"Samvād Prabhākar" ...	Ditto ...	1,435	2nd, 3rd and 7th June 1893.
34	"Samvād Purnachandrodaya" ...	Ditto ...	300	
	"Sulabh Dainik" ...	Ditto ...	.....	2nd, 3rd, 5th and 6th June 1893.
ENGLISH AND BENGALI.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
35	"Dacca Gazette" ...	Dacca ...	500-600	5th June 1893.
HINDI.				
<i>Monthly.</i>				
36	"Darjeeling Mission ke Māsik Samāchār Patrika." ...	Darjeeling ...	400	
<i>Weekly.</i>				
37	"Aryāvarta" ...	Dinapore ...	750	
38	"Bihar Bandhu" ...	Bankipore ...	500	
39	"Bhārat Mitra" ...	Calcutta ...	1,500	
40	"Champaran Chandrika" ...	Bettiah ...	350	
41	"Desī Vyāpārī" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
42	"Hindi Bangavāsi" ...	Ditto ...	5,000	
URDU.				
<i>Weekly.</i>				
43	"Akhbar-i-Al Punch" ...	Bankipore ...	750	1st June 1893.
44	"Anis" ...	Patna ...	.....
45	"Calcutta Punch" ...	Calcutta ...	.....
46	"Darussaltanat and Urdu Guide" ...	Ditto ...	300	29th May 1893.
47	"General and Gauhariasti" ...	Ditto ...	410	1st June 1893.
48	"Mehre Monawar" ...	Muzaffarpur ...	.....
49	"Reis-ul-Akhbar-i-Murshidabad" ...	Murshidabad ...	150	
50	"Setare Hind" ...	Arrah ...	.....
51	"Shokh" ...	Monghyr ...	100	

No.	Names of newspapers.	Place of publication.	Reported number of subscribers.	Dates of papers received and examined for the week.
URIYA.				
Monthly.				
52	"Asha "	Cuttack ...	80	For the month of Agrahāyan 1299 B.S.
53	"Echo "	Ditto ...	.....
54	"Pradīp "	Ditto ...	.....
55	"Samyabadi "	Ditto ...	.....
56	"Taraka and Subhavārtā "	Ditto ...	.....
57	"Utkalprabhā "	Baripada ...	250	
Weekly.				
58	"Dipaka "	Cuttack ...	.....	20th and 27th April 1393. 19th and 26th ditto. 22nd and 29th ditto.
59	"Samvad Vāhika "	Balasore ...	225	
60	"Uriya and Navasamvād "	Ditto ...	420	
61	"Utkal Dīpikā "	Cuttack ...	400	
PAPERS PUBLISHED IN ASSAM.				
BENGALI.				
Fortnightly.				
62	"Paridarshak "	Sylhet ...	480	For the first fortnight of Jyāistha 1300B.S.
63	"Silchar "	Silchar ...	250	

II.—HOME ADMINISTRATION.

(a)—Police.

THE *Bangavasi* of the 3rd June has learnt with surprise that a dacoity took place the other day only within a mile of Bankipore town, and asks what may not happen in the mufassal when such things can happen in the vicinity of towns. Though dacoities are taking place very frequently of late, the authorities do not seem to be taking any preventive measures.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1893.

2. Referring to the reorganisation of the superior police staff of the province, the *Sanjivani* of the 3rd June says that the new arrangement is probably the outcome of a desire on the part of the authorities to place the country under a more rigorous and stringent police administration than what obtains at present. If this had not been the case, provision would not have been made for placing every district under a District Superintendent, and certain sub-divisions too under Assistant Superintendents. The whole country is apparently intended to be brought within the iron grip of the police.

SANJIVANI,
June 3rd, 1893.

As to the personnel of the superior police staff, though the Queen's Proclamation promised to give appointments in the public service to natives and Europeans without distinction of caste or creed, the Police Department has always been filled with worthless relatives of high officials in India without the slightest regard to merit and ability. Indeed, of the 55 District Superintendents in Bengal and Assam, only two are natives, and those two occupy the lowest grades, and of the 29 Assistant Superintendents, only one is a native, and of the eight probationers, only one is a Muhammadan. The province of Bengal is inhabited by sixty-six millions of people, of whom only four have been deemed competent to hold office in the superior police staff of the province!

(b)—Working of the Courts.

3. The *Sahachar* of the 31st May refers to Captain Currie's letter to the editor of the *Amrita Bazar Patrika* in reply to the *Patrika's* article "No conviction, no promotion" and remarks as follows:—

SAHACHAR,
May 31st, 1893.

The writer has read the letter with pleasure, but he must say at the same time that if the people come to think that the promotion of the officers in the Subordinate Executive Service depend on the percentage of their convictions, they will certainly have reason on their side. Some of the Lieutenant-Governor's acts have been calculated to create and foster that belief. His Honour's remarks on the reports of the Divisional Commissioners, his Purulia speech, his silence in the matter of Mr. Phillips' interference with the judicial independence of his subordinate in the Suryya Kanta case, and his reflections on the Judge and the Jury in the Shambazar riot case—all these have given rise to the belief. Nevertheless, the plain statement made in the Private Secretary's letter has satisfied the writer. But it would have been better if this letter had been followed by a circular. For without a circular the letter will not in the last affect the conduct of the magistracy. And what possible objection can His Honour have to the issue of a circular?

4. The *Banganivasi* of the 2nd June says that the Judge who tries foreigners ought to be well acquainted with the language, religion, manners, and customs of the latter.

BANGANIVASI,
June 2nd, 1893.

The Price case. But it is very strange the Judge who tried the Price case, Mr. Blair, is a Barrister Judge of the Allahabad High Court, who has newly arrived in this country. His trial of the case clearly shows that he is a man of a shallow understanding, rash, and perfectly ignorant of the manners and customs of the people of this country. His charge to the jury was more a defence of the accused than anything else. Such an inexperienced and immature Judge should not have been allowed to try such a serious case. It is clear that Mr. Blair does not know how anxious the women of this country are to preserve their chastity, and how shy they feel in disclosing any violation of it, and in what serious light the people of this country take its violation. The jury, too, was composed

mostly of foreigners. And the only two native jurors, a Bengali and an up-country man, were men neither of whom thoroughly understand the language spoken by Ruri and her witnesses, all of them Rajputs. But they nevertheless know the manners and customs of their countrymen, and they therefore found the accused guilty.

The reason why Ruri did not disclose everything about her wrong immediately after its infliction will be best understood by natives. None but Indians can have a full knowledge of the modesty of their countrywomen, or can imagine how one of them must feel in telling the story of her violation. It is this uncommon modesty and bashfulness that explains why Ruri and her mother, although they complained to the police that the former had been subjected to brutal treatment by Price, did not say in so many words that Ruri's chastity had been violated by that man.

The poor witnesses may have in their fright contradicted each other in certain points in giving their evidence before an august body like a High Court Bench; and Ruri may have at first attempted to hide her shame, but a review of all the circumstances of the case from the beginning to the end does not leave the shadow of a shade of doubt in the mind of any man who knows the people of this country that Price was guilty of the crime charged against him. The public mind will not therefore be dislodged from its belief that the case has ended in a sad failure of justice. And it is a matter of no small regret that such an atrocious wrong committed upon a woman should remain unredressed under the rule of a female sovereign.

SANJIVANI,
June 3rd, 1893.

5. The *Sanjivani* of the 3rd June says that the mukhtars and pleaders who practise in the court of Mr. Macpherson, Magistrate of Gaya, are very much ill-treated by him. Recently he insulted a respectable mukhtar in open court.

All Mr. Macpherson's predecessors used to hold morning court in the hot season. But he has discontinued the practice, thereby causing great inconvenience to parties who cannot get pleaders and mukhtars because they refuse to stir out of their homes during the burning hours of the day.

(c)—Jails.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 3rd, 1893.

6. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 3rd June writes thus:—

Increased mortality in the jails.

It appears from the Bengal Administration Report for 1892 that the rate of mortality in the Bengal jails has considerably increased. In 1892 it was 44 per 1,000 against 31 per 1,000 of the year before last. The Lieutenant-Governor has tried to explain away this sudden increase of mortality by saying that "the Inspector-General attributes the high rate of mortality among prisoners as compared with 1891 chiefly to the unhealthiness of the year and the prevailing scarcity." "Unhealthiness" and "scarcity," which the Inspector-General believes to be the cause of this rise in the rate of mortality, are things quite beyond the control of anybody, and so it seems that Government is not at all uneasy on account of this increased death-rate.

It is clear, however, that scarcity and impure drinking water or "the unhealthiness of the year" are not the true causes of this increased jail mortality. An increase of 13 per 1,000 in one year is really a very serious thing. But Government apparently wants to pass over the matter lightly. For, although it is true that scarcity prevailed throughout the country last year, that could not have been the cause of increased mortality in the jails, where, scarcity or no scarcity, the prisoners get and must get their allotted food rations. And as to "the unhealthiness of the year," the general report is that last year was not more unhealthy than the year before it. Although last year's vital statistics have not yet been published, the general impression is that the country's death-rate was not higher last year than in the year preceding it. And supposing that the general health was bad last year, the prisoners in the jails who enjoy the advantage of a far better medical treatment than can be received by poor people outside the jails ought not to have died in numbers so much more large.

The fact is, there is a good deal of oppression in the jails, and continual oppression is always productive of serious results. The rigours of a hard

sentence can be tempered by the manner of carrying the sentence out. But this the authorities will never do. They sometimes forget that the prisoners are men, and subject them to the most inhuman treatment. And the result is that the death-rate increases in the jails.

So it is clear that neither "the unhealthiness of the year" nor "scarcity" was the cause of this increased mortality. The Inspector-General of Jails has failed to assign the true cause. The condition of the prisons in this country is already very bad, and the rate of mortality will go on increasing therein if Government does not take remedial measures.

7. The *Bangavasi* of the 3rd June says that recently a prisoner having committed suicide in the Madras Jail, the guard who had charge of the prisoner was fined half a month's salary. So far so good, but did the authorities enquire what led the prisoner to take his own life?

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1893.

(d)—Education.

8. The *Sanjivani* of the 3rd June cannot approve of the arrangement made for holding the middle scholarship examinations in only the Sadar stations of districts and sub-divisions. This arrangement will cause serious inconvenience to the little boys who appear at the examination from the remote interior of districts and sub-divisions. The candidates, for instance, who have hitherto appeared at the Taki and Baharu centres in the 24-Parganas will, under the new arrangement, have to come to Alipore or Basirhat, where they will be seriously inconvenienced for want of suitable lodging and boarding accommodation. The selection of centres ought therefore to have been left entirely to the Circle Inspectors.

SANJIVANI,
June 3rd, 1893.

The writer approves of the arrangement requiring the Inspectors of Schools to prepare the question papers. But the Director of Public Instruction should carefully revise the question papers, as the framers of question papers often set questions from portions of the text-books not included in the curriculum. At the last middle scholarship examination in the Dacca Circle, for instance, two out of the six questions on physics were on sound and electricity, subjects, which the examinees are not required to read, and at the same examination in the Burdwan Circle, the candidates were asked to state the manner in which Archimedes came to discover the famous law which goes by his name. In those subjects in which there are no fixed text-books, the paper-setters should be requested to select the questions only from such books as are in common use in the schools.

9. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 4th June says that, though Government is reducing its educational expenditure, it is anxious not to reduce its educational authority in the country. Furthermore, using the Calcutta University, which is now conducted mostly by the official members of the Senate, as its tool, Government seems to be preparing to extend that authority. Any extension of the University's power over colleges and schools means, therefore, an extension of the power of Government over all educational institutions in the country.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 4th, 1893.

The new affiliation rules of the Calcutta University.

Every impartial man will say that the rule of renewal of affiliation every five years passed by the University is an extremely unjust rule. The Syndicate has, by means of this rule, created for itself the power of withdrawing the privilege of affiliation from any institution which fails to satisfy the conditions laid down in its rules. No one has forgotten what mischief the Syndicate was about to commit in the Ripon College case, and that it was owing to the intervention of the Senate that that matter was set right, and the orders of the Syndicate were cancelled. But the Syndicate has now managed to get the whole power of disaffiliation into its own hands, subject only to the sanction of the Governor-General. It is to be regretted that the Senate has without full or careful consideration acquiesced in this arrogation of power by the Syndicate.

The conditions which will have to be satisfied for securing the affiliation of colleges and the recognition of schools are the same as those which are enforced by the Education Department in educational institutions under its control. Thus, through the instrumentality of the University, Government has succeeded

in introducing its own rules into all educational institutions, aided or unaided. Henceforward the University will be the order-bearer of the Government, and all educational institutions in the country will become order-bearers of the University.

It is by the co-operation of Government that the Syndicate has succeeded in making itself thus all-powerful in the University. But in doing so it has violated the Act of Incorporation, which nowhere gives the Syndicate the unlimited powers it has now arrogated.

It is certain that the authorities of many European educational institutions will take objection to the renewal rule. The University may be able to ignore or make light of every objection, however strong, that will be made by the authorities of native institutions, but it will not be able to treat so summarily the objections of the managers of European schools.

The 50-boy rule, which has been made applicable to schools alone, will seriously affect the interests of native institutions, as no European institution contains a large number of pupils. The writer does not see how this rule can be worked, seeing that even 10 or 15 students above 50 in a class or section will require the opening of a new class or section, and the maintenance of an additional staff of teachers. Under the operation of this rule all schools will have their rolls crippled, and the number of schools will vastly increase to the serious detriment of sound education and discipline.

SOM PRAKASH,
June 5th, 1893.

10. The *Som Prakash* of the 5th June takes exception to the 50-boy rule of the University. It is a most unreasonable rule. The new affiliation rules. If there be 51 boys in a class, the class must be divided into two sections, and such division will seriously affect the income of a school.

The University should not interfere so closely with the management of schools. The University ought to require nothing more than the results of its examinations in order to know how the schools are being managed. And if the results of a school be bad, it is the school that will suffer, and not the University.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 5th, 1893.

11. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 5th June says that the Abalakanta affair has not yet ended. It is said that Babu Abalakanta intends to bring a suit against the Director of Public Instruction, while on the other hand the Director, it is said, intends to prosecute him for his rabid writings. The affair therefore bids fair to proceed to lengths to which it should not be allowed to proceed. Both the parties should cease pushing the matter any further.

(e)—*Local Self-Government and Municipal Administration.*

PRATIKAR,
June 2nd, 1893.

12. The *Pratihar* of the 2nd June is dissatisfied with the working of the Berhampore Municipality, and asks that body what it has done with the money which Mr. Beveridge entrusted to it for the purpose of placing a few iron benches on the river bank. The extremely insolvent condition of the Municipality leads people to apprehend that it may have appropriated the money to its own use.

PRATIKAR.

13. The same paper says that Government once proposed to form village unions for the sanitary improvement of rural areas and to place those unions under the control and guidance of the District Boards. No objection can be properly raised against any measure which is intended to improve sanitation. But attempts at sanitary improvement after the European fashion only mean grinding taxation of the poor.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1893.

14. The *Bangavasi* of the 3rd June says that the Municipal authorities of Benares propose levying a poll-tax on every person entering the city by rail. Considering that Benares is a place of pilgrimage for the Hindus, and is therefore visited by thousands of pilgrims every day, the tax will mean an impost on the Hindu religion. The proposal has therefore exceedingly annoyed the writer and, for the matter of that, every true Hindu too. But the Hindus should not content themselves with simply expressing their annoyance; they should take

every means in their power to prevent the imposition of the proposed tax. A tax has been already imposed on the temples in Benares, and now a tax is proposed to be imposed on the pilgrims! *O Tempora! O Mores!*

15. The *Sanjivani* of the 3rd June complains that the Municipal Commissioners of Naihati in the 24-Parganas are quite apathetic in the matter of the municipal improvement of the village Jagaddal. The roads are never repaired, and the absence of drains makes them impassable in the rainy season. The Chairman was several times represented to on the subject, but without effect.

SANJIVANI,
June 3rd, 1893.

16. Referring to the petition submitted to the Calcutta Municipality by certain rate-payers, praying for a reduction of Rs. 6,000 in the annual expenditure of the License Department of the Corporation, the same paper says that, considering the income of the department and the efficient and highly satisfactory manner in which the license officer and his subordinate inspectors have discharged their duties during the last few years, the proposed reduction in the already very limited expenditure in the department will involve great injustice to the employes of the department. The writer has learnt that the petition is the outcome of private malice on the part of a certain employe of the municipal office against the officers of the License Department. Many of the rate-payers who signed the petition did so in perfect ignorance of its contents, and are quite willing to withdraw their names now that they have come to know the truth.

SANJIVANI.

(f)—*Questions affecting the land.*

17. The *Burdwan Sanjivani* of the 30th May has the following:—

BURDWAN SANJIVANI,
May 30th, 1893.

The Cadastral Survey of Bihar. The survey of the khas mahals belonging to the Burdwan Raj estate is complete, and settlement work has commenced there. The survey and settlement is proving very expensive to the estate, but the estate has not in the main been benefited by it. In killa Kujang and Sujamutha the original jama has largely decreased in consequence of the settlement. In Hakmapur, another zamindari belonging to the estate, the survey and settlement operations have cost Rs. 60,000, while the jama has increased by only Rs. 1,000. As a consequence of these operations, many mal lands have come to be classed as lakhiraj, and many holdings that were not *mokarari* to be classed as such. And as no one wishes to see mischief done to him with his own money, the zamindars of Bihar are protesting so much against a cadastral survey of their estates. But Government is unfortunately paying no heed to their protests.

(g)—*Railways and communications, including canals and irrigation.*

18. In the *Dacca Prakash* of the 4th June a correspondent complains that

DACCA PRAKASH,
June 4th, 1893.

Canal work in the Noakhali district. the absence of canals in Noakhali causes much inconvenience in the carrying of goods as well as in journeying by boat. As the distance from Noakhali to Fenny is 27 miles, the new railway from Chandpur to Chittagong, though passing through the Fenny sub-division, will not do much service to these places. The writer thinks that if the old canal, which ran from Noakhali to Lakshmipur in the Comilla district, be re-excavated, people will derive much benefit from it. The road cess of the district being nearly Rs. 14,000, the District Board can easily undertake this work. The writer hopes that the present members of the Board, who are all able and worthy men, will see their way to this really good work.

(h)—*General.*

19. The *Sahachar* of the 31st May has the following:—

SAHACHAR,
May 31st, 1893.

The income-tax question. It is rumoured that all incomes down to Rs. 300 a year will be assessed to the income-tax. It is true that after the Sepoy Mutiny the then Finance Minister, Mr. James Wilson, fixed the minimum assessable income at the still smaller sum of Rs. 200 a year. But the country was not so poor then as it is

now. Rice then sold at only Re. 1-8 per maund, the home charges amounted to only 4 crores, and a sovereign was equivalent to only Rs. 9-8. But all that is now changed, and the proposed lowering of the limit of the tax will, if effected, increase dissatisfaction in the country, impoverish it still more, and confirm the people in their belief that India is only a *taluk* which exists for the benefit of the European officers of Government. But it is useless to urge considerations like these before Lord Lansdowne and his Councillors.

If the English War Office shows only ordinary courtesy, there will be not only no necessity for increasing the tax, but the tax may be abolished altogether. That office now takes from India $7\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs of pounds, which is equivalent to 1 crore and 11 lakhs of rupees. And this immense sum of money is taken not for any actual service rendered to India, but for service which England may have to render to her in her need? Now, England is bound to protect her colonies, and will have to send soldiers in case of necessity in aid of, say, Canada and Australia. But does she now therefore dare to take from those colonies a single pice on that account? Is she not, therefore, ashamed to take from India such a large sum simply because she can take it with impunity? India is powerless, and the utmost that her people can do is to protest. Is it not, under the circumstances, an act of gross injustice to take money from her for nothing? Curtail your military expenditure, for 60,000 European soldiers are sufficient for India. And if 60,000 men cannot protect India, 73,000 men, to be sure, will not be able to do so. Again, if the Government of India makes it a rule to take the articles it requires in a cheap market, it can save $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees at a stretch. The fact is, the Indian cannot have any cause for complaint if only the Ministry in England act with honesty and impartiality. As it is, three crores of rupees are being taken from this poor country year after year, and for nothing.

SAHACHAR,
May 31st, 1893.

20. The same paper has the following on the subject of the separation of
 Separation of judicial and executive functions. —

To establish a sound system of administering justice in a country is as indispensable as to undertake a war in order to defend it against an internal enemy; and neither the one nor the other can be deferred on financial considerations. It will not do for a Government to adopt in the matter of administering justice the rule of debit and credit which regulates the transactions of shop-keepers. It has been pointed out by the press in this country that, in Bengal at least, the income from the administration of justice is largely in excess of the expenditure. And the country is repeatedly asking the question—"Does Government want to sell justice, or does it look upon the work of administering justice in the light of a trade?" Not even the Government of Lord Lansdowne can muster up courage to answer this question. In every seat of Government in this country, as well as in the suburbs attached thereto, the judicial and the executive work are in separate hands, and the question is—may not this arrangement be gradually extended all over the country? All are agreed that it may be except Anglo-Indian officialdom. And where is the harm if, in consideration of the mischief which daily results from the present system, a beginning is made in the direction of disuniting the two functions? The English system of administering justice is not a thing that can be laughed away, and Englishmen and Indians are alike interested in seeing the prestige of that system kept intact. Now that there has been unanimity in this matter between the two peoples, how long will a knot of narrow-minded civilians stand in the way of the much-needed reform?

HITAVADI,
June 1st, 1893.

21. The *Hitavadi* of the 1st June has the following on the subject of
 Separation of judicial and executive functions. —

The authorities are now agreed as to the necessity of the separation, but they say that it must be postponed for want of funds. No one can say, however, when the financial troubles of the Government of India will be over. Suppose the exchange difficulty to be over, matters are not much mended, for large sums of money have still to be found for the frontier works and frontier wars which have kept the officers of the Military Department alive. It is, therefore, perfectly clear that the proposed separation of the two functions will be never effected if it is allowed to be put off till the

financial position of Government is decidedly improved. And other means will, therefore, have to be devised for the purpose, and it is the people who must themselves devise such means. As for the officers of Government, the separation of the functions will curtail their powers, and it is not, therefore, likely that they will of their own accord take any action in the matter. The question of the separation was discussed at the last meeting of the Congress, with this result that a saving of Rs. 4,11,600 a year by the abolition of the post of District Superintendent of Police throughout the provinces of Bengal and Assam was suggested as a means of finding money for the reform. As the Magistrate is the head of the police in each district, there is no necessity for a District Superintendent of Police. Again, if the separation is effected, the Magistrates will be relieved of a portion of their work, and their number will then admit of reduction. And that will be another way of finding money for the proposed reform. The fact is, where there is a will there is a way, and Government can, if so minded, easily find the money that will be required to give effect to the measure. As the pleaders of the Rajshahi Bar have pointed out, Government can apply a portion of the large profit which it makes from the Civil Courts to the execution of the reform. And it is very proper that the income derived from the Courts should be spent in improving the judicial system of the country. By appropriating this large income to its own use, Government is now making itself open to the charge of selling justice.

22. Commenting on the attitude of Sir Charles Elliott towards the native press, the *Samay* of the 2nd June writes to the following effect:—

Sir Charles Elliott's attitude towards the native press.

SAMAY,
June 2nd, 1893.

It is certain that the Lieutenant-Governor was not quite pleased with the native press for the remarks and criticisms they often made on his administration. It was really his desire that these papers should praise him and his administrative policy. But he received no praise except for a few good acts of minor importance. He therefore won over the *Hindoo Patriot* to praise and support him, and also tried to have a district gazette published in each district. But his efforts in this last direction failed everywhere, except at Shahabad. All this was done so carefully that His Honour's connection with the *Shahabad District Gazette* remained a secret until it was brought to light by the *Indian Mirror*.

About a year ago a correspondent of the *Indian Mirror* said something about the transfer of a Government officer. This attracted the notice of the Lieutenant-Governor, and he at once intimated to the editor through his Secretary, Mr. Cotton, that by publishing such a letter he had violated the provisions of the Official Secrets Act, and thereby rendered himself liable to prosecution. Nothing daunted by this threat, however, the editor replied to the Lieutenant-Governor that he had done nothing which could incriminate him. And there the matter ended. But the incident very well illustrates the Lieutenant-Governor's attitude towards the native press. Sir Charles, it seems, does not at all like that the native papers should freely criticise his actions, thereby exposing his administrative policy. There can be no doubt that His Honour did not act in a manner befitting his dignity by threatening the editor of the *Indian Mirror* in this way.

The Lieutenant-Governor threatened to punish the editor of the *Indian Mirror* under the obnoxious Official Secrets Act, but he is conniving at the violation of the same Act by his own subordinates. Government officers are strictly forbidden by the Act to keep any connection with newspapers, but one favourite Secretary of his is a leading writer in the *Hindoo Patriot*, and another is a supporter of the *Indian Daily News*. Does not the Lieutenant-Governor know all this? The *Indian Daily News* informed the public that the Lieutenant-Governor intended to bring Mr. Phillips over to the Judicial Department. But how did the editor come to know this before the information was published in the Government Gazette? Well, will the Lieutenant-Governor be able to drag the editor of the *Indian Daily News* to court for giving out this official secret? or even to browbeat him or, in other words, his own Secretary, as he did the editor of the *Indian Mirror*? The Lieutenant-Governor should try to get the Official Secrets Act abolished, or he will one day find himself in trouble and difficulty on account of his own Secretaries.

But as he is now going home on leave, it is better not to say anything more on this subject. It is to be hoped that he will on his return see his mistakes and become careful not to repeat them. May God grant him sound health, so that, after the expiration of his leave, he may govern the country wisely and to the satisfaction of his subjects.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1893.

23. The *Bangavasi* of the 3rd June says that though Government has two toll offices on the river Churni in the Nadia district, in which tolls are levied on even the smallest boats passing up and down the river, yet no attention is paid to the fact that the river is fast silting up, and will be completely blocked up in four or five years more. The apathy of Government in this matter is extremely reprehensible, seeing that the silting up of the river will throw the whole district of Nadia into a severe water scarcity, not to speak of an absolute stoppage of navigation. It is hoped that the authorities will yet bestir themselves and cause the mouth of the river to be cut open.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 6th, 1893.

24. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 6th June has the following:—
An Englishman named L. J. Clarke, a graduate of the Oxford University, appeared at the last Subordinate Executive Service examination, but could not stand high in the competition. But the Lieutenant-Governor has still made him a Deputy Magistrate, and not even a probationary Deputy Magistrate, but a Deputy Magistrate who will at once draw Rs. 200 a month. What can be more strange than this? Mr. Clarke has no other claim to such patronage than his white skin.

III.—LEGISLATIVE.

SAMAY,
June 2nd, 1893.

25. The *Samay* of the 2nd June says that the Lieutenant-Governor having refused to confer on the British Indian Association the privilege of sending a member to the Bengal Council, the Association has appealed to the Viceroy. When the Bengal Chamber of Commerce and the Trades Association both enjoy the privilege of electing members for the Council, the British Indian Association, which is the recognised organ of the zamindar community, can reasonably expect to get the same favour. It is hoped that His Excellency the Viceroy will grant the prayer.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 5th, 1893.

26. The *Sulabh-Dainik* of the 5th June says that the petition submitted to the Lieutenant-Governor protesting against the election of Mr. Asutosh Chaudhuri on the ground of his not being a resident of the Rajshahi Division is a very reasonable one. The electors of the Rajshahi Division will be ungrateful to their country if they do not elect Raja Sasi Sekhareswar Rai of Tahirpur, the worthiest man they can elect.

VI.—MISCELLANEOUS.

CHARUVARTA,
May 29th, 1893.

27. The *Charuvarta* of the 29th May has the following:—
The new Lieutenant-Governor. Sir Charles Elliott is going home for six months. The office of Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal is a very responsible one, and it is not known why he is leaving his post for six months and before the expiration of his term of service. Sir A. P. MacDonnell, Chief Commissioner of the Central Provinces, officiates as Lieutenant-Governor during the absence of Sir Charles. By his long service in the country Sir Antony MacDonnell gained a large experience of Bengal, and it is hoped that during his administration the country will be well governed. But as no one knows what is in store for the unfortunate people of Bengal, the writer considers it premature to give expression to the delight which has been caused by Sir Antony MacDonnell's appointment.

HITAVADI,
June 1st, 1893.

28. The *Hitavadi* of the 1st June expresses the wish that during his short tenure of office Sir Antony MacDonnell may succeed in winning the good opinion of the people.

29. Referring to the unveiling of the statue of Sir H. Harrison, the *Banganivasi* of the 2nd June expresses surprise that a statue should have been erected in memory of Sir Henry when the country has not bestowed such an honour on Lord Ripon.

BANGANIVASI,
June 2nd, 1893.

30. Referring to the fact that many natives were not present on the Howrah platform to see Sir Charles Elliott off, the *Bangavasi* of the 3rd June asks, if it was well of the Bengalis to treat Sir Charles Elliott in this way, considering that, all his faults notwithstanding, he is the representative of their sovereign.

BANGAVASI,
June 3rd, 1893.

31. The same paper says that large numbers of men are dying in Hakamagram in Assam of small-pox and dysentery. The corpses are being thrown into the river, thereby polluting the water.

BANG AVASI.

32. According to the *Sanjivani* of the 3rd June there is a rumour in Darjeeling and Simla that Sir Charles Elliott will not return to this country. May Heaven really inspire Sir Charles with such a good intention! Sir Antony MacDonnell is heartily welcome to his new office, and will, it is hoped, bind the people of Bengal to him by the same tie of good government which have made the people of the Central Provinces so attached to him. There is one thing which the new Lieutenant-Governor should always bear in mind, and that is that the people of Bengal being very much more advanced than the people of the Central Provinces, expect larger privileges and greater freedom than the latter.

SANJIVANI,
June 3rd, 1893.

33. The *Sulabh Dainik* of the 6th June writes as follows:—
No Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal from Sir Frederick Halliday downwards has been so much disliked by his subjects as Sir Charles Elliott. No one has expressed sorrow for his untimely departure. After the rigorous administration of Sir Charles Elliott, people gladly welcome their new Governor, Sir A. P. MacDonnell, who, it is hoped, will so govern the country that people will have to shed tears of love and gratitude when he will retire after the expiration of his term of office.

SULABH DAINIK,
June 6th, 1893.

34. The *Dainik-o-Samachar Chandrika* of the 7th June refers to the success of Mr. Paul's motion in the House of Commons on the subject of holding the Civil Service Examination simultaneously in England and India, and remarks as follows:—

DAINIK-O-SAMACHA
CHANDRIKA,
June 7th, 1893.

The Anglo-Indian papers say that Mr. Naoroji's party took advantage of a thin house to get this motion passed, but their success will yield no practical result. The writer too considers it certain that it will yield no result; for when a Bill for holding the Civil Service Examination in India will be brought before the House, it is sure to be defeated. The writer is therefore not prepared to make merry over the success of Mr. Paul's motion. But it is nevertheless certain that arrangements will have to be made sooner or later for holding the Civil Service Examination in India and for reducing the emoluments of that service. Already it has been found necessary to reduce the number of covenanted appointments, and the financial troubles of Government, whatever their consequences in other directions, have proved beneficial to the Indian people by compelling this reduction. The writer is therefore of opinion that it would be best to begin at once what it will be impossible not to do some years after. Civil Service Examinations in both England and India will prove beneficial to both the countries. The certain increase in the number of native civil servants that will follow from the change will enable Government to reduce the salary of the service and by that means to make a saving in the cost of the administration. The present exchange difficulty would not have been so severely felt by Government if the Civil Service had not been so full of Europeans. Again, it is not at all likely that the increase of the native element in the Civil Service, which will result from holding the examination in this country, will endanger the administration. If the native gentlemen who pass the Civil Service Examination in England and the native gentlemen who do not pass that

examination can rule districts smoothly and without occasioning any trouble or without weakening in any way British power and prestige, there is no reason why the native gentlemen who will pass the Civil Service Examination in India will not be able to do their work equally well. As the key to the administrative machinery will remain in the hands of the English officers, a more extended employment of natives in the Civil Service should cause no anxiety to Government.

DAINIK-O-SAMACHAR
CHANDRIKA,
June 7th, 1893.

35. The same paper has the following:—

The falling off in the Hindu population.

It has been ascertained from the last census that in Bengal the non-Hindu races are increasing faster than the Hindus. This has set people speculating, and some are saying that if this goes on some time longer, the Hindu race in Bengal will become extinct. But no mistake could be more egregious than this. It may be that the non-Hindu races are multiplying faster than the Hindus, but as the latter also are multiplying, their extinction is out of the question. Speculation is nevertheless rife, and some are lamenting that the Hindus should find themselves in their present predicament for prohibiting widow marriage! Well, where, in the first place, is the guarantee that no errors have crept into the census calculations, or that the figures forming the basis of those calculations are all correct? For his own part, the writer has not the least faith in official manipulations of figures, which he regards as mere child's play.

But supposing, in the next place, that the census figures are correct, all that they prove is that the Hindus of Bengal have not multiplied as fast as some other races living there. And it is essential to know whether or not this result has been due to a decrease of the reproductive power of the Hindus or to an increased activity of the same power in other races. If it be due to the former cause, it will still have to be ascertained whether all Hindus or only particular classes of Hindus have increased slowly. And if only particular classes be found to have multiplied slowly, the point that will have to be next determined is—have those classes been subjected to any special influences affecting reproduction among them in the manner ascertained, and, if so, what are those influences? A rational discussion of the subject can take place only when all these points have been cleared up, and not before.

URIYA PAPERS.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
April 26th, 1893.

36. The *Uriya and Navasamvad* of the 26th April is sorry to notice that the people are in great dread of additional taxation.

SAMVADVAHIKA,
April 27th, 1893.

37. The *Samvadvaika* of the 27th April and the *Uriya and Navasamvad* of 26th April make certain extracts from the *Sambalpur Hitaishini*, a weekly paper published in Bamra near Sambalpur in the Central Provinces, in which it is stated that the outrages committed and the cruelties practised on Bhuyan women by the Military Police deputed to govern the Bhuyans in Keonjhar have driven them mad in a body, and that they are determined to dethrone the Maharaja of Keonjhar and to make a bold stand against all future attacks.

URIYA AND
NAVASAMVAD,
April 26th, 1893.

UTKAL DIPIKA,
April 29th, 1893.

A Sanskrit tol at Jajpur in the Cuttack district.

38. The *Utkaldipika* of the 29th April suggests the establishment of a Sanskrit tol at Jajpur in the Cuttack district.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

39. The same paper exhorts the District Boards of Cuttack and Balasore to connect Jajpur in the former district with Bhadrak in the latter by a good road, as the traffic between the two places is large, and the jurisdiction of the Jajpur Munsifi, extends over a portion of the Bhadrak subdivision.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

40. The same paper is glad that the landlords and tenants of the Cuttack district have been very much relieved by a temporary cessation of settlement work in that district, and by the transfer of a considerable number of Assistant Settlement Officers and others from that district.

UTKAL DIPIKA.

41. The same paper suggests the lowering of the price of the Government *Uriya Gazette* published in Cuttack, thereby increasing the number of its subscribers.

The price of the *Uriya Gazette*.

ASSAM PAPERS.

42. The *Paridarshak* for the first fortnight of Jaistha complains of the extremely tedious character of the mathematical questions set at the last examination for Sub-Deputy Collectorships in Assam, and is disposed to think that the examiner had some sinister object in view in setting such difficult questions.

PARIDARSHAK.

43. The same paper has learnt with surprise that the Assam Government proposes to give the two scholarships which it promised to give to two Assamese students who would consent to prosecute their studies in the Dehra Dun Forest School to the two candidates who stood third and sixth respectively in the examination which was held for the purpose of making the selection. It is said that the third boy has been chosen in supersession of the claims of the first and second boys, because he is the son of the head clerk of the Assam Forest Office. Taking into consideration the character of the Sub-Deputy Collectorship examination, and the manner in which the Forest School scholarships are proposed to be given away, it is clear that the Assam Government's Resolutions about the holding of public examinations are a pure hoax upon the public.

PARIDARSHAK.

44. The same paper says that at a meeting of the Managing Committee of the Sunamganj School, held on the 14th May last, it was proposed by a certain member that the permanent presidentship of the Committee and some other powers should be conferred on Babu Jagabandhu Nag, the Sub-divisional Officer, already a member of the Committee, and the proposal was taken as unanimously carried, though there were among the members present four who did not understand English, the language in which the business of the meeting was conducted, and though one of these four men opposed the proposal, saying that he did not know what it was about. Babu Jagabandhu has been for some time showing an ardent desire to make himself all-in-all in the Committee, and this to the detriment of the best interests of the institution. If the Sub-Divisional Officer has the good of the school really at heart, he should share all the powers of the Managing Committee with the other members. The Director of Public Instruction is requested to look into the condition of the Committee.

PARIDARSHAK.

45. The same paper complains of the indiscretion of the Assam Government in appointing junior men to offices of trust and responsibility. This, says the writer, makes the young officers highhanded and insolent.

PARIDARSHAK.

The writer also complains of the action of Mr. Ward in putting a stop to the construction of an embankment on the river along the Sylhet town, which the Municipality had decided to undertake at its own expense, because without such an embankment the town would be totally engulfed in the river in a few years more.

A general disapproval is then expressed of the administration of Mr. Ward, and his action in throwing the charge of the special police on the Cachar frontiers on the Manipuris is condemned.

46. A correspondent of the same paper says that the head-constable of the Pathairkandi thana in Assam, who is also in charge of the pound at that place, refused to return a cow with its calf to the owner after receipt of the feeding charge and the usual fine, and harassed him in various ways, until some illegal gratification was forthcoming. The pound-keeper's highhanded and illegal conduct causes great hardship to the people.

PARIDARSHAK.

CHUNDER NATH BOSE,

Bengali Translator.

BENGALI TRANSLATOR'S OFFICE,

The 10th June 1893.

